

reference desk MALL

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By Todd Fenton

Welcome to the long days and short but mosquito-filled nights of summer in Minnesota. In my first written communication to you, I would like to: introduce myself, tell you a bit about what to expect from me as president, and share my hopes for the organization.

Getting to know me. I am, in fact, “not from around here.” I am frequently asked where I am from, because I lack the requisite accent to be from anywhere. The easy answer is that I grew up in a military/nomadic family. I was born outside of San Francisco, spent extended time in eastern New Mexico, and also lived for longer stretches in the Big Valley of central California as a child. I graduated from the University of Vermont and did my graduate studies in library science at Simmons College in Boston. I’ve been living and working in Minnesota for eighteen years with my wife and 7.5-year-old daughter. While I’ve lived in Minnesota longer than I’ve lived anywhere else—home is still the West Coast.

As president of MALL, I will do my best to speak up and speak out, although it is in contrast to my nature as an introvert. Please do not hesitate

to reach out to me. I will happily accept your LinkedIn requests and I will try to respond to all e-mails promptly.

Finally, I am not a law librarian. I have been a special librarian, a competitive intelligence analyst, a research consultant, an information resource specialist, and have filled several other roles within libraries. Currently I run a service at the University of Minnesota that is not exclusively for law librarians but is significantly geared toward litigation support. I will do my best to understand and work with membership to understand and address the needs of the association, but again, please help me to understand those needs as you see them, so that I may advocate appropriately.

A facilitator. I view my role as president of MALL to be that of a facilitator. Can I help you in your profession? Can I help the profession? I may not always understand the issues that the various types of law librarians are encountering *prima facie*, but I will do my best to learn and provide assistance. Also, please do not hesitate to offer constructive feedback, as I am open to new and different ideas or interpretations.

My hopes for MALL. I have been participating in MALL for about five years. I met people with great enthusiasm and dedication. I would like to make it possible for more people to participate and get involved. I am concerned that professional associations (e.g., AALL, SLA, SCIP) are trending downward. Many different factors are influencing this shift, so I am hoping we can identify ways of making MALL more streamlined, more meaningful, and more valuable (perhaps even more fun). Obviously, I cannot do this alone. This is where you are being invited to share your hopes, needs, and aspirations for the organization. In the coming months, we (the executive committee) will be asking for feedback from members on ways to increase engagement and offer timely and relevant opportunities. **Your voice matters!** When you receive this communication, please take the time to respond (we promise it will be short).

Again, I am eager to get to know all of you and serve this organization to the best of my ability.

Editorial Team/Committee:

Jennifer Doyle
Andrea Fraser
Peggy Lahammer
Kaythey Windyk
Sarah Yates

CALCO – What is it and Why Should I Know?

By Liz Reppe

CALCO is the [Capitol Area Library Consortium](#). The purpose of the group is to create a strong network of state government libraries. It was formed in 1973 with twelve libraries, and at its largest it had twenty-three. Today it has thirteen members and five associate members. Any state government library or information center whose primary purpose is to serve Minnesota state agencies or state-sponsored entities, whether legislative, executive, or judicial, may become a member of CALCO. In 2012 CALCO created an associate membership option for individuals, groups, or libraries with representatives who wish to attend meetings and educational programs but do not meet the membership eligibility criteria. The primary patrons of CALCO libraries are typically the agencies or institutions they are attached to. However, some access to services and materials is provided to the public. The specialized collections held by CALCO libraries could be valuable resources for law librarians and the communities they serve. Materials held at CALCO libraries are searchable via [MnPALS](#). Below is a summary of the collections you can find at CALCO libraries. All of these libraries have professional library staff to assist researchers.

Attorney General

The Attorney General Library provides service and resources to support the activities of the Office of the Attorney General. In addition to subject-specific materials used to aid the office's work on behalf of public agencies, the library has historical collections of Minnesota statutes, laws, rules, and attorney general opinions. The library is open by appointment to the public.

DEED

Law librarians often turn to the DEED Library for information about its agency, the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development. DEED programs of special interest to legal researchers include the Minnesota Unemployment Insurance Program and the Minnesota Trade Office.

The library offers hard-to-find exporting resources such as explanatory notes, international exporting agreements, and information on transnational joint ventures. The library is available to legal and business researchers, primarily those exploring exporting opportunities, by appointment.

Health

The Barr Library at the Minnesota Department of Health primarily assists public health professionals by providing access to public health materials. Some of their specialized collection includes a historical collection of books and state governmental publications dealing with medicine and public health. They also provide access to legislatively mandated publications of the Department of Health. The general public may use the library's materials in-house or request them via interlibrary loan.

Historical Society

The Minnesota Historical Society library's collection includes materials (books, serials, newspapers, manuscripts, photographs, maps, audiovisual materials, digital resources) that relate to Minnesota's history. The library is open to the public and is well visited by genealogists, students, historians, and the media. The State Archives is part of the Historical Society, and its materials are available through the library as well. The library's specialized collections are too numerous to list here but are fully detailed on its website.

Legislative Reference Library

The Minnesota Legislative Reference Library (LRL) serves the legislature and the citizens of Minnesota. The library has an extensive collection of Minnesota state agency documents, including all reports mandated by the legislature. LRL also collects materials related to the legislature, legislators, and legislative history.

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Metropolitan Council

The library's collection includes Metropolitan Council documents; census publications; local government plans, maps, and air photos; planning information related to demography, population, housing, and transportation; and materials related to urban and regional planning. The primary users of the library are Metropolitan Council staff, but the library is also open for use by the public.

Natural Resources

The library collects information and resources covering all aspects of natural resource management. Its collection includes books; federal, state and local documents; DNR publications; and 450 technical and professional journal subscriptions. The library primarily serves the DNR but does provide information to the public and loans materials via interlibrary loan.

Perpich Center for Arts Education Library

The Perpich Library aims to support teaching and learning through the arts by loaning arts and arts education materials to Minnesota residents (eighteen and older) who are K-12 and post-secondary teachers, artists, staff from arts organizations, researchers, or other interested citizens. In addition to a diverse representation of arts and education materials, the library has special collections focused on: multicultural and diversity resources, professional development and research, dance education, and National Gallery of Art teacher resources.

Pollution Control Agency

The library provides materials related to environmental issues. The collection includes technical EPA, MPCA, and other publications relating to pollution, toxicology, solid and hazardous waste, sustainable development, and the environment. The library does assist the public and will loan materials via interlibrary loan.

Revenue

The Revenue Library provides research and information services to Department of Revenue employees and maintains a collection of current and historical state tax resources. It contains current and historical tax materials including legal treatises on federal and state taxation, Minnesota tax forms (1933-current), and prior year copies of State Tax Notes and Tax Notes journals. The collection is available to members of the public by appointment.

State Law Library

The State Law Library supports the research needs of the judicial branch and serves as the archive for the courts. The library purchases and keeps materials related to Minnesota law, both primary and secondary. Its collection also contains an extensive treatise collection and primary materials from other states and the federal government. The State Law Library is a Federal Depository Library. The library collects materials of use to self-represented litigants and is dedicated to aiding access to justice by providing all Minnesota residents access to legal information.

Transportation

The MnDOT Library supports the activities of the Department of Transportation but is open to the general public. Its specialized collection includes current and historical: official state highway maps; highway and transportation specifications; traffic count maps; and publications of Highway Research Board, the Transportation Research Board, and the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials.

Welcome New MALL Members!

Erica Nutzman

Head of Technical Services for the Minnesota State Law Library

Erica got her MLS from the University of Wisconsin–Madison, previously worked for the Saint Paul Public Library, and was the library director for the Minnesota School of Business/Globe University. 651-297-2090

Erica.Nutzman@courts.state.mn.us

Kelly Porter

Library Assistant, Document Delivery at Fish & Richardson, PC

Kelly graduated with her MPA from Northeastern University in 2014. She recently transferred from the Boston office to the Twin Cities office to further her career in the library field.

612-766 -2069

porter@fr.com

Other new members:

- ◆ **Chad Gilman** gilman@fr.com
- ◆ **Lisa Heidenreich** ljheidenreich@stkate.edu
- ◆ **Trish Hoskins** thoskins@fr.com
- ◆ **Noelle Lowrie** lowrie@fr.com

Meet Chris Sexton of Briggs and Morgan



Briggs and Morgan is pleased to announce that it has hired Chris Sexton as its new research librarian. Chris earned his bachelor's degree from St. John's University and his MLIS from the College of St. Catherine. Prior to joining Briggs, Chris worked at Dorsey and Whitney and at the Minnesota Historical Society. He also interned at the National Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York, combining his love of librarianship with his love for America's pastime.



The Introverted Conference Attendee

Tips for Networking (and Making It Through)

By Wendy Fossum

Conferences are wonderful places to meet new people and make new connections. You can get help, suggestions, and project ideas, and it's always nice to interact with someone who knows your profession. All of this, however, doesn't negate the fact that meeting new people can also be awkward and daunting. It's like being at the junior high dance. You'll likely have a good time, but first you have to get over the awkward shyness. I'd like to share a few tips I learned by experience (and mistake) while attending my first conference.

Introduce Yourself

While there is a stereotype of the shy, reserved librarian, there are plenty of outgoing people in the profession. Despite this, you can't wait for someone else to approach you. Even outgoing people gravitate toward others they already know or to whom they have a connection. The person sitting next to you before a session or at a dinner may be shy or tired or have any number of reasons for staying quiet. When you introduce yourself, you guarantee you'll start a conversation. Get used to saying, "Is anyone sitting here?"

Go to Social Events

While you can and should meet people before and after sessions, some of the best opportunities to have a long conversation will be at social gatherings. They include networking events, happy hours, walking tours, and parties. It can be tempting to go back to your hotel early and get a good night's sleep, especially since you'll probably want to be back early the next morning, but resist the temptation. One of the best networking connections and information conversations I had was during a karaoke party. Neither of us sang, but we each got vital information about the other's electronic resource experiences.

Take a Break

Even if you aren't an introvert, spending day after day in a room full of strangers and repeatedly introducing yourself can be draining. You need to decompress, but the schedule is so full it's hard to find the time. I took my Kindle everywhere. When I felt overwhelmed and had a small window of time, I would pull it out and read for a bit. Occasionally, I would end up talking to someone else who was also unwinding, but the pressure was off. Others may want to use their phones or bring a small handheld game or a deck of cards. It can be anything that relieves your stress or anxiety.

Avoid the Crutch

While it's important to relax, avoid burying yourself and becoming unapproachable. You can't introduce yourself, and you're unlikely to be approached if your nose is buried in a book or you're hunched over your phone. Only you know if you really need a break from approaching others or being approached, but don't use these items as a shield to avoid networking.

Social interactions are by nature personal, so these tips aren't an exact science. Adjust the tips to suit your needs and tailor them to different events like organizations' parties and meetings. Perhaps the holiday party is fun, but you need a friend or significant other to make you feel less awkward. Bring them as your "Take a Break" device (but don't let them be the crutch that keeps you from interacting with others). Be flexible. In the end, despite the intimidating nature of approaching a group of strangers or people you don't know well, it's beneficial and, frankly, you'll probably end up enjoying yourself.



Partnering (Once Again) to Promote Effective Practice and Professionalism

by Susan Catterall and Donna Trimble

The fallout from the 2008–09 economic recession continues to be sorted out, and the effects are being felt by law school graduates and young associates. Librarians still do the heavy lifting when it comes to nurturing and training young associates, but some of the burden has shifted away from law firms to law schools.

Earlier this spring, Donna Trimble and I attended and presented at the SEAALL Annual Conference in Lexington, Kentucky. We continued the conversation that had begun two years earlier at the pre-SEAALL institute on research skills. In 2013, Donna had proposed a panel presentation (“Research Practices Among New Associates: Are Their Choices Driven by Fear or Lack of Information Literacy Skills?”) that emphasized the importance of librarians working together in order to better equip young associates with the research skills they would need in order to succeed. The panel comprised two law firm librarians and one academic librarian who had an extensive law firm library background. The presentation focused on research as the primary requisite practice-ready skill.

In recent years, the hiring patterns of large law firms have changed. Firms are more likely to recruit laterals who bring along their own clients, rain-making skills, and a knowledge of the business side of law. As a result, a large number of graduates have entered into solo or small firm practices and don’t have the benefits of mentoring and law firm librarian hand-holding.

Although potential employers continue to value strong research and writing abilities, another practice-ready skill has emerged—professionalism. This year Donna and I preserved both the importance of collaborating with librarians from different types of libraries and the composition of our panel by teaming with Lynn Fogle, director of knowledge services at Bingham Greenebaum Doll LLP.

I drew upon the *2015 Barbri State of the Legal Field Survey*, Susan C. Wawrose’s 2013 law review article “What Do Legal Employers Want to See in New Graduates? Using Focus Groups to Find Out,” (39 Ohio N.U. L. Rev. 505), and the Charlotte School of Law “Student Success Initiatives.” The articles and the results of the “Student Success

Initiatives” emphasized the importance of social skills, relationship-building skills, and professionalism. I also described some related projects that had been librarian-led at Charlotte School of Law and some endeavors in which the librarians had joined with other departments. My objective was to illustrate that partnering produces stronger, better outcomes.

I concluded my portion by alluding to a recent *AALL Spectrum* article by Christine Stouffer, “Closing the Gap: Teaching Practice-Ready Legal Skills,” (19 *AALL Spectrum* 10, February 2015) in which Stouffer encourages law firm librarians and academic law librarians to form cooperative alliances. This segued smoothly into Donna’s segment. Donna focused on practitioner research skills, including specialty websites, court rules, and resources that are available via bar association membership. Donna discussed the importance of knowledge management resources (including brief banks and document management systems). The audience for our presentation was other librarians rather than the young associates themselves, yet Donna emphasized the responsibility of academic librarians to include more practice-ready resources in the law school curriculum and that librarians from all types of libraries should encourage young practitioners to seek out mentors, formally or informally, and to value the skills and expertise of law librarians.

Lynn Fogle provided insights into the business side of law by illustrating the cycle of rainmaking, performing business services, and billing and collecting for those services. She discussed the roles and interrelatedness of conflict-checking, maintenance of records, and accounting/financial systems.

Our presentation was one of three concurrent presentations, and yet we drew a sizable audience. This is noteworthy because there were only eight or nine law firm librarians registered for the conference, and the majority of those were also presenters. We were, for the most part, addressing law school librarians. On the one hand, this illustrates that academic law librarians were eager to work with law firm librarians in order to promote practice-ready associates. It may also

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signal a willingness to incorporate more practitioner skills into the law school curriculum. Two academic library directors approached Donna; both were complimentary of the presentation. One asked for a specialized research website that Donna had highlighted, and one wanted to know whether firms still billed by the hour/project.

“Big Law” hiring practices are not the only thing that have been affected by the recession. Travel and professional development budgets have shrunk also. This is true for both law firms and law school libraries. Both Donna and I mounted small hurdles in being permitted to attend and present at SEAALL.

I always enjoy working with Donna and had looked for ways to collaborate with Lynn. We had exchanged rough

drafts and slides but had never pieced the entire thing together until just before the presentation. Because her firm has offices in almost every time zone and she is in demand, Donna usually travels with a laptop. She also had an instinct that we would need one. She was correct.

Immediately after breakfast on Friday and just before our session, the three of us loaded our presentations onto Donna’s laptop, rearranged the room so that the respective speaker could see the screen as she presented and quickly did a practice run. The hotel hadn’t automatically provided a laptop (but we had access to Donna’s, and Lynn’s office was across the street from the hotel). We decided against requesting a remote mouse or clicker and instead took turns forwarding slides and relied upon a quickly improvised system of hand signals. As it happens, we work well together, and who better than librarians to demonstrate the importance of building relationships and teams?



Evidence Based Medicine: Strategies for Success

Kathleen Otto, MLIS

What Is Evidence Based Medicine?

Evidence-based medicine (EBM) is the process of systematically reviewing, appraising, and using clinical research findings to help make decisions. One of the most commonly used definitions of EBM is:

“Evidence-based Medicine is the conscientious, explicit, and judicious use of current best evidence in making decisions about the care of individual patients...it is integration of the best research evidence with clinical expertise and patient values to make clinical decisions” (Sackett, et al. 1996).

So basically, EBM is using a combination of the best available evidence (literature) with expertise to help make decisions. In medicine, EBM can be used to guide a decision regarding patient care, and in law, it can be used to support a decision regarding a legal case.

Why Is Evidence Based Medicine Important?

EBM plays an important part in making a more informed decision. In medicine, a combination of evidence and clinical expertise provides the best patient care. In the courts, using a combination of both evidence and expert witnesses can provide a better court ruling. For example, a lawsuit may involve several experts who disagree and present opposing testimony on each side. *“EBM presents the possibility of empirical, objective guidance that can be used in addition to the information given by expert witnesses”* (Blake, 2013).

Types of Questions in Evidence Based Medical Research

EBM can be used in the following legal cases:

- medical malpractice lawsuits in which the injured patient seeks to recover monetary damages for an injury allegedly caused by a physician or other members of the health care team,
- cases of patients contesting insurance coverage decisions of a health plan,
- worker’s compensation, and
- personal injury (Blake, 2013).

Law firms ask a variety of clinical questions depending on the type of evidence they may need. One type is questions regarding incidence and prevalence. The difference between these two can be a little confusing. Incidence is the number of *new* cases during a given period in a specified population. Prevalence is *all cases*, new or old, in the population at a given time. An example question could be what are the inci-

dence and prevalence of Parkinson’s disease in the United States?

Prognosis, life expectancy, or survival rates of specific diseases or conditions are other common questions. These three differ from each other, but fall under the same hat. Prognosis is a prediction of the probable outcome of a disease. Life expectancy is based on statistical data. It’s the number of years a person is expected to live. Survival rate is the number of survivors in a group that was studied over a period of time. Questions regarding treatment are also common. Some example questions are: What is the effectiveness of a type of physical therapy treatment? What are the risks of a particular surgery? What are the adverse effects of a drug?

Pathology, or in other words, cause and effect questions, also can require evidence in legal cases. For example, a client who was a welder for thirty years develops chronic obstructive pulmonary disorder (COPD). In this example, evidence linking COPD and welding would be needed.

Sometimes, background information or just general information on a disease or treatment is needed.

How to Find Evidence

The first step in finding evidence is to understand the question that is being asked. It is important to determine what type of question it is and what exactly needs to be answered in order to obtain useful evidence. The second step is obtaining background information that helps familiarize you with the topic. This may sometimes go hand in hand with understanding the question, especially if it is a medical condition or treatment that is not familiar. The next step is deciding what databases or online sources to search. Gathering terms for your search is the next step. This involves deciding where to use controlled vocabulary and what keywords to use. Filtering your results by excluding or including certain types of data is the final step in finding evidence (Heneghan et al, 2006).

Understanding the Question

A strategy that is used in EBM to help understand a clinical question is PICO. PICO helps pull out the important details of a medical case and puts that information in an answerable question.

PICO stands for

Patient: who is this concerning

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Intervention: what treatment is being considered
Comparison: what is the alternative intervention (may not always be present)
Outcome: what are the outcomes you are looking for (Guyatt, 2008)

Here is an example scenario where a PICO can be employed. A middle-aged man with high cholesterol wants to take red rice yeast instead of statins. This broken out to a PICO would be:

P: middle aged man
I: red rice yeast
C: statin drug
O: lower cholesterol

Now it is easier to put this scenario into an answerable question: *Is red rice yeast as effective as statins in reducing high cholesterol?*

Not all questions will require or fit into the PICO strategy. For example, in a question of prevalence or incidence, PICO is not needed. It works great, however, for breaking apart prognosis, diagnosis, or therapy questions.

Obtaining Background Information

It is always a good idea to begin your research by obtaining background information on the topic. If you are unfamiliar with the condition or treatment being questioned, Google is a good place to start. Google will typically link you to a reliable source. Other excellent sources to use to obtain background information include the Centers for Disease Control; association websites such as the American Cancer Society, American Diabetes Association, and American Heart Association; or Medline Plus. Medline Plus is a consumer health database run by the National Library of Medicine. It provides summaries on diseases, conditions, and treatments, and it has links to other reliable sources.

Where to Search

Deciding where to search is an important step. Some typical databases used in evidence-based medical research include Medline, Embase, Web of Science, Scopus, and the Cochrane Library.

Most clinical questions can be answered by searching Medline. Medline is the National Library of Medicine's database. PubMed is the free interface to search Medline. It's a good source for clinical type questions. It contains more than twenty-two million references to journal articles in life sciences, with a concentration on biomedicine.

Another useful database is Embase. Embase is strong in pharmaceuticals and medical devices. It also indexes many foreign or international journals compared to Medline.

Web of Science is a large database that covers topics from arts and humanities to science and technology. It does index Medline articles, so it can be used as another interface for searching Medline.

Scopus is a database that indexes both Medline and Embase and can also be used as another interface to search. The downside of Web of Science and Scopus is there is no controlled vocabulary searching. They are completely keyword driven. The search interfaces are also clunky; therefore it can be difficult to execute complex searches in them.

The Cochrane Library includes a whole suite of Cochrane Database such as Systematic Reviews, Cochrane Controlled Trials Register, and NHS Economic Evaluation.

Some online sources include the National Guideline Clearinghouse, ACP Journal Clup, TRIP Database, EBM Online, and SEER. The National Guideline Clearinghouse is a free database of evidence-based clinical practice guidelines. ACP Journal Clup, TRIP Database, and EBM Online are all free online EBM resources. The National Cancer Institute runs SEER, which stands for Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results Program. It is a free database that includes numerous cancer statistics in the United States (Heneghan et al, 2006).

Textbooks can also be very useful resources and are excellent in answering background information questions.

Terminology

A combination of controlled vocabulary and keywords is a necessity in a database search. Medical Subject Headings (MeSH) is the controlled vocabulary produced by the National Library of Medicine that is used to index articles in Medline databases (e.g., PubMed). It is also the controlled vocabulary that is most widely used in evidence-based medical research. MeSH is designed to be used for both indexing and cataloging. It is organized in a hierarchal structure called trees. These "tree structures" provide searches from the broadest to the most specific subject. Below is an example of a MeSH tree structure.

All MeSh Categories
Disease Category
Neoplasms
Neoplasms by Site

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Skin Neoplasms

Acanthoma

Sebaceous Gland Neoplasms

Muir-Torre Syndrome

Sweat Gland Neoplasms

When choosing vocabulary terms, it is always a good idea to look at the MeSH tree structure to see what terms fall above or below your selected term. For example, if the term you are searching falls under a category that doesn't fit your search, then you may consider a different term or using keywords.

Filtering

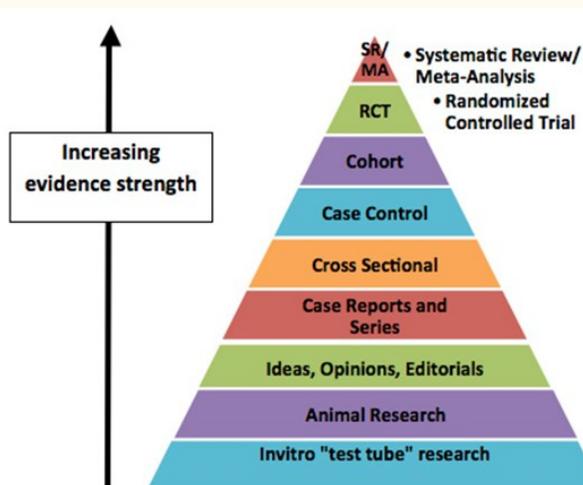
Filters are useful in eliminating data that is not needed.

Some examples of filters that can be applied to searches include publication dates and types, age range, and language. Filtering can be important to searches. For example, if a legal case involves an incident from twenty years ago, then the search results should be limited to twenty years ago and older because medical technology and terminology has changed since then. Or, if it were a legal case involving a child, you would limit the results to that child's age group.

Evaluating Sources

After a search is run it is crucial to evaluate the sources. To evaluate sources it is necessary to have a basic understanding of the different types of medical literature.

Below is an Evidence of Medicine Pyramid that displays the different types of medical literature. The pyramid provides a concept of the higher and lower levels of evidence. The bottom is the lowest level of evidence and as you move up, the evidence gets stronger.



The lowest forms of evidence are invitro and animal studies. Because these studies don't involve humans, the evidence isn't as strong as other source types.

The next are expert opinions, ideas, and editorials. These reports are typically one to two pages long and are written by experts in the field.

<http://libraryguides.unh.edu/content.php?pid=271887&sid=2269297>

Case reports or case series are next in the pyramid. These studies consist either of collections of reports on the treatment of individual patients with the same condition, or of reports on a single patient. The downside of these articles is that there is no control or comparison and they are observations of just one or a few patients.

The next three studies in the pyramid, cross-sectional, case control, and cohort studies, are different types of observational studies. Cross-sectional studies are used to determine prevalence. They are relatively quick and easy to conduct but do not permit distinction between cause and effect.

Case control studies compare patients who already have a certain condition with people who do not have that condition. An example study would be if a group of colon cancer patients are asked what kinds of food they have eaten in the past and then their answers are compared with the answers from a selected control group who do not have colon cancer. A good case control study will include a clear definition of the disease or outcome of interest. The control group should be similar to the case population. The interviewers should be trained and blinded to the cases and controls. In other words, the interviewers shouldn't know who are the cases and who are the controls. Finally, a clear analysis of the data should be included in the study.

Cohort studies, also called *longitudinal studies*, involve a population who currently have a certain condition and/or receive a particular treatment who are followed over time and then compared with another group who are not affected by the condition. For example, a study that followed, over several years, a large group of people with high blood pressure along with another large group of people who do not have high blood pressure, then looking to see if one group lives longer or is more prone to conditions such as heart attacks.

The downside of these types of studies is that it can be hard to control for bias. In other words, there are always going to be factors that can't be controlled that

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will affect the results. In a good cohort study, the sample population should be assembled and represented at a common time. Bias should be controlled as much as possible. The groups should be divided up as evenly as possible, and the information from each group should be gathered in the same manner. For example, if the data from one group was collected from medical records and the data from the other group collected by patient recall, this could have an effect on the results.

Finally, confounding factors need to be taken into consideration. Confounding factors are not under the control of the researchers. This is the problem of observational studies. For example, in a study to determine if heavy drinkers die at a younger age found that both groups died around the same age, there might be some factor that was missed in one of the groups studied. Perhaps the group that didn't drink had a very poor diet and that factor was missed before the study began. Therefore, it is important to identify as many of these factors as possible, but there are going to be factors that can't be controlled that will affect the results.

Near the pyramid's top are randomized controlled trials (RCTs). These types of studies have strong evidence due to the way the study is designed. An RCT study has two groups: a treatment group and a control group. The treatment group receives the treatment under investigation, and the control group receives either a placebo or a standard treatment. In a well-done RCT, the participants are randomly assigned to either the treatment or the placebo group. RCTs are typically double blinded, where neither the patients nor the researchers know who is in which group. This controls any bias in the results. The groups are fairly equal in size and treated equally throughout the study. There should also be minimal loss of participants throughout the study. Every participant who completes the study should be analyzed. No one should be excluded, as that could create an anomaly that may skew the results.

At the pyramid's pinnacle are meta-analysis and systematic reviews. These are considered the gold standard of evidence. The difference between a systematic review and a meta-analysis is that a systematic review looks at the whole picture (qualitative view), while a meta-analysis looks for the specific statistical picture (quantitative view). Often, you will see a systematic review that includes a meta-analysis.

A meta-analysis is a way to combine data from many studies, usually from randomized controlled clinical trials, to determine treatment effectiveness and statistical significance.

A systematic review is a literature review focused on a research question that tries to identify, appraise, select, and synthesize all high-quality research evidence relevant to that question. It is an exhaustive literature search and analysis of both published and unpublished studies. In a good systematic review, the research question should be clear. Published and unpublished literature is carefully searched. The methods sections should include all the databases and online resources searched, along with the keywords and subject headings used. The inclusion and exclusion criteria for studies should be explained. A description of how the quality of each study was assessed should be provided. And the final results should be placed in context, addressing such issues as the quality of the included studies, impact of bias, and the usability of the findings.

Some quick things to check for when evaluating articles include looking at the journal in which the article was published. Well-known, reputable journals typically have rigorous standards for authors and are peer-reviewed. Also, determining who funded the study is a quick way to evaluate an article. For example, in a drug study funded by the pharmaceutical company, the results may be skewed to favor the drug being tested. For clinical trials or observational studies, look at how many participants were in the study. The evidence isn't going to be very strong in a study with few participants. And in review studies, look at how many sources were checked and how many articles were included in the study. For example, if only a few databases were searched and a small number of studies included, the evidence won't be as strong (Understanding Research Study Designs, 2010 and Health Literacy, 2013).

Unfortunately, systematic reviews or RCTs will not be found for every type of clinical question. Some cases can involve a condition that is so rare that only case studies or possibly case series have been published on it. Or, if it is a question on a new drug treatment, then there hasn't been enough time to study it and produce higher levels of evidence. Hence, the only types of articles available are animal or in-vitro studies.

Ultimately, it is a matter of finding the best information available to provide sound legal evidence.

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Continued on page 12

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MALL Announcements



LaVern Pritchard, Pritchard Law Webs, Minneapolis, spoke at the Stanford CodeX Center for Legal Informatics in Palo Alto, California on June 25th. The topic was: LawMoose, LawSaurus and Laugment - What Comes After the Search Engine? Semantic Network-Based Lawyer Augmentation. CodeX is jointly operated by Stanford Law School and the Stanford University Computer Science Department.

Susan Catterall is the AALL PLL Best Blogger/Writer of the Year!

The PLL Best Blogger/Writer award recognizes a member who has made significant blogging/writing contributions to the Private Law Librarians Special Interest Section and/or law library profession and who demonstrates outstanding potential for continued service.

2015 Unsung Legal Heroes

The Unsung Legal Heroes award honors the law firm employees who have consistently go above and beyond the call of duty, often behind the scenes. This award is reserved for the state's most talented and dedicated legal support professionals.

2015 Winners:

- ◆ **Jean Anderson**, Minnesota State Law Library
- ◆ **Sara Galligan**, Ramsey County Law Library
- ◆ **Suzanne Grossman**, Dakota County Law Library



Former MALL Member, Phyllis Marion Inducted into AALL Hall of Fame

Reprinted with permission from AALL's Spectrum

By Pauline M. Aranas

Phyllis C. Marion, associate dean for library and information resources and professor of law at California Western School of Law in San Diego, is highly regarded for her exceptional mentorship, teaching, and expertise in all aspects of technical services and law library administration.

Marion has achieved many "firsts" within our Association. She served as the first chair of the Technical Services Special Interest Section (TS-SIS) in 1979 and guided that SIS through its development and organization for two years. In 1992, the TS-SIS recognized and honored Marion's longstanding efforts and contributions by selecting her as the inaugural recipient of the Renee D. Chapman Memorial Award for Outstanding Contributions to Technical Services Law Librarianship. For the Chapman Award, she was cited as a "role model for an entire generation of law librarians in technical services."

In addition to serving as TS-SIS chair from 1979-1980 and executive board member from 1980-1982, Marion has chaired or served as a member of several AALL committees throughout her career. She has also chaired special AALL task forces and special committees. At the chapter level, Marion served as president of the Minnesota Association of Law Libraries and was honored as a recipient of that chapter's Law Librarianship Award. She is a frequent speaker at AALL programs, institutes, and workshops.

For a substantial portion of her career, Marion exerted a strong influence on the national development of cataloging rules for legal publications. She was AALL's representative to the American Library Association's Cataloging Committee: Description and Access from 1979-1984 and AALL's representative to the Library of Congress Advisory Committee on Foreign Law Classification Schedules from 1984-1994.

Marion's early publications on law cataloging helped guide law librarians through the intricacies of the national cataloging rules established at that time (i.e., AACR2). Her article, "Sources for Determining Citation Practice in Courts Throughout the World," was considered essential reading for catalogers working with AACR2. As someone whose career path moved from law cataloger to law library director, Marion generously shared her insights in an AALL Spectrum article titled "Why Technical Services is Good Preparation for Being a Library Director: A Desktop Learning Opportunity."

One nomination letter noted that Marion has been "the gold standard by which other technical services law librarians should be measured. Be active in your profession and continue to educate yourself." Marion recently announced that she will step down from her administrative duties as associate dean effective July 31, 2015, and will phase into full retirement at the end of the 2015-2016 academic year. Her induction to the Hall of Fame is a capstone to a long, distinguished career .





Long-time assistant law librarian retires Grossman says she has enjoyed helping people find legal information

Reprinted with Permission from the Hastings Star Gazette, Star Gazette photo by Katrina Styx

Twenty years ago, Suzanne Grossman got a call from the Dakota County law librarian. Grossman had left her previous career in banking, a fact known by one of the law library employees. That employee also knew the law librarian needed a part-time assistant, and suggested Grossman.

"I thought it would be fun for a while," Grossman said.

Now, 20 years later, Grossman is stepping away from a full-time career in the law library. She is involved with a number of other activities, she said, and wanted to devote more time to those.

The work

The law library is a collection of legal information that's available to all Dakota County residents, judges, law clerks and county employees. It's not affiliated with the county public libraries such as Pleasant Hill Library; it's located on the second floor of the Dakota County Judicial Building, funded by court fines and fees and governed by its own board.

"We're a county entity, but we exist separately," Grossman explained.

Law library staff can help people find legal information about specific issues, Grossman said. That information is often critical, especially for those residents who decide to represent themselves in court, or who need to learn about the legal system or applicable laws before talking to an attorney. They can also help people get the appropriate legal forms for various situations, such as when dealing with wills or estates. What they can't do is give legal advice.

"It's a very enjoyable place to work," she said.

Grossman's job as assistant law librarian includes processing books and publications that come into both the main law library here in Hastings as well as its branch locations. She pays invoices, helps maintain online library products and helps patrons when the law librarian is away at clinics or meetings.

The law library isn't the most familiar place to many people, but in legal situations, it's a good first step in figuring out legal options. Sometimes, information found there can point to solutions that don't rely on court, Grossman said.

Grossman stayed with the job for so long in part because she enjoys helping people find solutions to their problems, she said. Law is a procedure that requires patience and knowledge, she explained, and she helps give people knowledge.

"In some cases it gives them a little bit of empowerment," she said.

Because she's enjoyed her job so much, it hasn't been stressful. Of course, it's helped that throughout her career at the law library, she's worked with talented, enjoyable people, she added.

"I've always had wonderful managers," she said.

On Monday, June 15, Grossman learned she will be receiving the Unsung Local Heroes Award from Minnesota Lawyer.

Continued on page 16.

Retirement

Grossman's last day at the Dakota County Law Library will be June 25. After that, she plans on devoting more time to her passion for embroidery.

"I've embroidered all my life," she said.

Grossman is a member of the Embroiderers Guild of America, a non-profit dedicated to the study and preservation of the art of embroidery. The guild doesn't collect pieces, but it does collect the knowledge of how to do certain rare types of embroidery. As a member, Grossman can learn various types of embroidery from instructors who have learned traditional styles from all over the globe.

Currently, she's signed up to learn Elizabethan embroidery, which uses surface embroidery and pulled thread to create a lace look; Temari, a Chinese and Japanese folk art; and heirloom button making.

"I enjoy the challenge of it and I enjoy the preservation aspect," she said.

She also intends to do more traveling with her husband. They like to travel to historic places and other sites that align with their particular interests.

CLE CORNER

Title: [Interacting with Content: Improving the User Experience](#)

Link: <http://www.minitex.umn.edu/Events/Niso/#interacting>

Description: This virtual conference will feature a range of perspectives on how publishers, libraries, and technology suppliers achieve an understanding of reader needs and perspectives, in order to drive iterative improvements in the way users interact with the content we host, publish, and license.

Cost: Free

Date/Time/Location: October 28, 2015, 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. CDT, 15 Andersen Library, Conference Room, West Bank Area, Minneapolis Campus, University of Minnesota–Twin Cities

Title: [Sudden Systems Librarian](#)

Link: <http://www.ala.org/alcts/confevents/upcoming/webinar/102815>

Description: This webinar will share a variety of experiential insights regarding the basics of systems librarianship. It will focus on knowledge/skills/awareness needed immediately as well as provide guidance for development over time. Things that would have been good to know when taking on systems responsibilities will also be shared.

Cost: ALCTS member: \$43; nonmember: \$59; international: \$43; member group: \$99; nonmember group: \$129

Date/Time: October 28, 2015, 1:00 p.m.–2:00 p.m. CDT

CLE CORNER

[Financial and Civil Protections under the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act \(SCRA\)](#)

Description: Presented by Vildan Teske, Teske, Micko, Katz, Kitzer & Rochel, PLLP

Cost: Military & Veterans Affairs Section member: \$10.00; MSBA member not in the section: \$15.00; non-MSBA member: \$20.00; law student: \$0.00

Date/Time/Location: October 26, 2015, 12:00 p.m.–1:30 p.m., Presidents Room, Minnesota State Bar Association, Minneapolis

*Teleconferencing and webcasting are available.

Credits: Application has been made for 1 standard CLE credit

Source: Minnesota State Bar Association

[Personality Disorders: Working with Pathologically Difficult Clients](#)

Description: Presented by Jennifer Joseph and Allen Davis (St. Paul)

Cost: Free

Date/Time/Location: August 11, 2015, 8:00 a.m.–9:00 a.m., Dakota County Western Service Center, Apple Valley

Credits: Application has been made for 1 standard CLE credit

Source: Dakota County Law Library

[Understand your Veteran Client's Needs in the Criminal System](#)

Description: Presented by Tom Plunkett, attorney at law

Cost: Military & Veterans Affairs Section member: \$10.00; MSBA member not in the section: \$15.00; non-MSBA member: \$20.00; law student: \$0.00

Date/Time/Location: August 13, 2015, 12:00 p.m.–1:30 p.m., Presidents Room, Minnesota State Bar Association, Minneapolis

*Teleconferencing and webcasting are available.

Credits: Application has been made for 1 standard CLE credit

Source: Minnesota State Bar Association

[Vets Benefits and Appeals](#)

Description: Presented by Brad Lindsay, Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs; Alex Hontos, Dorsey & Whitney, LLP; and Virgil Bradley, Cornerstone Family Law, LLC

Cost: Military & Veterans Affairs Section member: \$10.00; MSBA member not in the section: \$15.00; non-MSBA member: \$20.00; law student: \$0.00

Date/Time/Location: September 30, 2015, 12:00 p.m.–1:30 p.m., Presidents Room, Minnesota State Bar Association, Minneapolis

*Teleconferencing and webcasting are available.

Credits: Application has been made for 1 standard CLE credit

Source: Minnesota State Bar Association

Conference Calendar

July–August

Title: CONTENTdm Basic Skills 1: Getting Started

Link: <http://www.minitex.umn.edu/Training/Details.aspx?SessionID=389>

Description: This webinar provides instruction on the structure of CONTENTdm, navigating and using CONTENTdm Collection Administration to create and manage a digital collection, as well as using the CONTENTdm Project Client to prepare digital items for addition to a collection.

Cost: Free

Date/Time: July 27, 2015, 1:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m. CDT

Title: CONTENTdm Basic Skills 2: Working with Text

Link: <http://www.minitex.umn.edu/Training/Details.aspx?SessionID=390>

Description: This webinar provides instruction on the structure of CONTENTdm, navigating and using CONTENTdm Collection Administration to create and manage a digital collection that includes text-based materials, as well as using the CONTENTdm Project Client to prepare digital items for addition to a collection.

Cost: Free

Date/Time: July 29, 2015, 1:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m. CDT

Title: Crowdfunding for Libraries: Technology Tips for Futuristic Fundraising

Link: <https://cc.readytalk.com/cc/s/registrations/new?cid=7o9ix9scg52m>

Description: This webinar will provide technology tools, tips, and tried-and-true practices for running a successful crowdfunding campaign for your library. Learn the basics, and hear from two libraries with experience in this type of fundraising.

Cost: Free

Date/Time: July 29, 2015, 1:00 p.m.–2:00 p.m. CDT

Title: Open Educational Resources: Librarians as Advocates, Advisors, and Creators

Link: http://gla.georgialibraries.org/mediawiki/index.php/Carterette_Series_Webinars

Description: This webinar will introduce you to what OERs are (and aren't) and how librarians can support this movement as advocates, advisors, and participants in creating OERs. While primarily directed at academic librarians and administrators, the information provided also applies to media specialists and public librarians who work with homeschoolers interested in free and low-cost educational resources.

Cost: Free

Date/Time: July 29, 2015, 1:00 p.m.–2:00 p.m. CDT

Title: CONTENTdm Basic Skills 3: Maintaining Collections in CONTENTdm

Link: <http://www.minitex.umn.edu/Training/Details.aspx?SessionID=391>

Description: This webinar provides instruction on editing collection items through CONTENTdm administration and the CONTENTdm Project Client. Additionally, the webinar explores workflows that make it possible through the use of tab-delimited data to import significant numbers of compound objects and/or legacy metadata in one operation.

Cost: Free

Date/Time: July 30, 2015, 1:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m. CDT

Title: Connexion Client Module 04: Save Files, File Management, and Batch Processing

Link: <http://www.minitex.umn.edu/Training/Details.aspx?SessionID=409>

Description: This webinar provides instruction on using Connexion Client to perform high volumes of searches and record actions using the efficiency of batch processing, including the use and management of save files. It will show how to use Connexion's file management tools to manage online and local save files effectively, enter multiple search keys, record actions, process batches, and perform batch actions by OCLC number.

Cost: Free

Date/Time: August 25, 2015, 10:30 a.m.–11:30 a.m. CDT

Title: MOOCs and Libraries: Impact Realized or Still Brewing?

Link: <http://www.minitex.umn.edu/Events/Niso/#moocs>

Description: This webinar will consider the multiple issues surrounding MOOCs and libraries and try to answer the question of whether the impact of libraries on MOOCs has been realized or is still brewing.

Cost: Free

Date/Time/Location: August 12, 2015, 12:00 p.m.–1:30 p.m. CDT, 15 Andersen Library, Conference Room, West Bank Area, Minneapolis Campus, University of Minnesota–Twin Cities

September–October

Title: RDA for Copy Catalogers: The Basics

Link: <http://www.ala.org/alcts/confevents/upcoming/webinar/090915>

Description: This webinar seeks to provide an understanding of the variations in bibliographic description that occur within a shared cataloging environment when a variety of rules guide the process of record creation. The primary focus is on the application of specific RDA guidelines in the creation of bibliographic description through the use of excerpts from RDA, sample title pages, and sample bibliographic records. Special attention is paid to the basic principles and organization of RDA and its relationship to FRBR.

Cost: ALCTS member: \$43; nonmember: \$59; international: \$43; member group: \$99; nonmember group: \$129

Date/Time: September 9, 2015, 1:00 p.m.–2:00 p.m. CDT

Title: Part 1: The Practicality of Managing E: Licensing

Link: <http://www.minitex.umn.edu/Events/Niso/#licensing>

Description: Not currently available.

Cost: Free

Date/Time/Location: September 9, 2015, 12:00 p.m.–1:30 p.m. CDT, 15 Andersen Library, Conference Room, West Bank Area, Minneapolis Campus, University of Minnesota–Twin Cities

Title: Designing Collections for Collisions

Link: <http://www.ala.org/alcts/confevents/upcoming/webinar/091615>

Description: This webinar will share insights into why we need to start talking about designing our libraries, both physical and virtual, with engineered serendipity in mind to enable the collections to facilitate interactions with discovery, research, and learning.

Cost: ALCTS member: \$43; nonmember: \$59; international: \$43; member group: \$99; nonmember group: \$129

Date/Time: September 16, 2015, 1:00 p.m.–2:00 p.m. CDT

Title: Part 2: The Practicality of Managing E:Staffing

Link: <http://www.minitex.umn.edu/Events/Niso/#staffing>

Description: Not currently available.

Cost: Free

Date/Time/Location: September 16, 2015, 12:00 p.m.–1:30 p.m. CDT, 15 Andersen Library, Conference Room, West Bank Area, Minneapolis Campus, University of Minnesota–Twin Cities

Title: Scholarly Communication Models: Evolution or Revolution?

Link: <http://www.minitex.umn.edu/Events/Niso/#models>

Description: This virtual conference will highlight how scholarly communication models are evolving from the authors', publishers', and libraries' perspectives. The presenters will share and discuss their approaches in adapting and navigating the issues surrounding this topic.

Cost: Free

Date/Time/Location: September 23, 2015, 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. CDT, 15 Andersen Library, Conference Room, West Bank Area, Minneapolis Campus, University of Minnesota–Twin Cities

Title: Catalog User Tasks beyond Finding and Obtaining

Link: <http://www.ala.org/alcts/confevents/upcoming/webinar/100715>

Description: In this webinar, Marty Kurth will probe the generic library catalog user tasks of find, identify, select, and obtain as identified in FRBR. Seeking to go beyond the largely passive FRBR user roles, he will present a model for user engagement that assumes that users will participate alongside librarians in generating structured bibliographic data in a networked information environment.

Cost: ALCTS member: \$43; nonmember: \$59; international: \$43; member group: \$99; nonmember group: \$129

Date/Time: October 7, 2015, 1:00 p.m.–2:00 p.m. CDT

Title: Cloud and Web Services for Libraries

Link: <http://www.minitex.umn.edu/Events/Niso/#cloud>

Description: Not currently available.

Cost: Free

Date/Time/Location: October 14, 2015, 12:00 p.m.–1:30 p.m. CDT, 15 Andersen Library, Conference Room, West Bank Area, Minneapolis Campus, University of Minnesota–Twin Cities

Title: The New CIP Data Block: How to Use It for Cataloging

Link: <http://www.ala.org/alcts/confevents/upcoming/webinar/101415>

Description: This webinar will describe the CIP Data Block, including its data elements, and explain how to use it to create catalog records.

Cost: ALCTS member: \$43; nonmember: \$59; international: \$43; member group: \$99; nonmember group: \$129

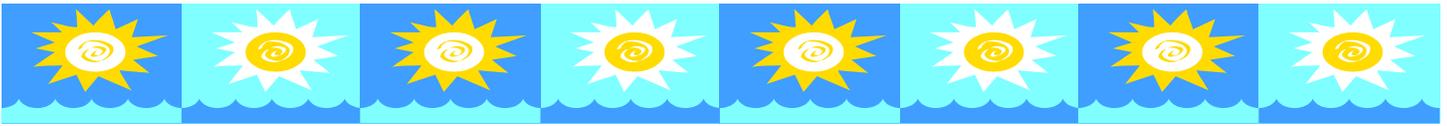
Date/Time: October 14, 2015, 1:00 p.m.–2:00 p.m. CDT

Title: E-Books via the Cataloging in Publication Program

Link: <http://www.ala.org/alcts/confevents/upcoming/webinar/102115>

Description: This webinar will describe e-book metadata and ingestion workflows in a large library setting and explain how to identify high-quality prepublication e-book metadata in bibliographic utilities.

Cost: ALCTS member: \$43; nonmember: \$59; international: \$43; member group: \$99; nonmember group: \$129



Minnesota Association of Law Library Committee Reports

The **Exchange Committee** posts used legal materials that organizations or people have for sale, wish to donate, or need. In 2014/2015, MALL Exchange had 15 requests from law firms, lawyers, and libraries to list unused material. There were also 6 requests for people seeking materials. Exchange does have a list of metro area recyclers for those books that remain homeless. In addition to the recycling option, Books for Africa (<http://www.booksforafrica.org/law.html>) also accepts a few categories of gently used legal materials. In addition to the Exchange listserv, the Minnesota State Bar Association Solo and Small Business listserv cross post available materials. This collaboration provides a wider audience for people seeking materials to fill office shelves.

~ Susan A. Trombley, Chair

The **Web Committee** spent the year working with individuals and committees to start putting the new web site to work. Several committees, including the Education Committee, the Placement Committee, and the Scholarships, Awards, and Grants Committee have been regularly updating the site with new content. With everything running smoothly, the committee volunteered to help with a new project: creating a new logo for MALL.

The Web Committee will be following in the footsteps of the State Law Library by using crowdsourcing to come up with a variety of designs for a new logo. The designs will be narrowed down, and presented to the MALL Executive Board for final selection. Our timeframe is to have a new logo by the end of the summer, and in time to celebrate MALL's 60th Anniversary.

~ Pauline Afuso, Chair

The **Newsletter Committee** has successfully released three of the four quarterly newsletters. The latest issue explored the topic of Innovation in the legal industry and included a summary of a recent survey of MALL members on their efforts. The committee has been very fortunate to find outstanding authors of articles for each issue, generally with three or four original articles. In addition to the substantive articles we also have had full support of all committee members to draft sections on new members, training opportunities, announcements, and have even added a section for recent job postings. Finally, the group moved from an online publishing tool that was not well known by many users to the Microsoft Publishing tool that has allowed broad editorial access and created new branding for the newsletter. Thank you to Andrea Fraser, Kaythey Windyk, Sarah Yates and all of our talented writers for their outstanding contributions!

~ Peggy Lahammer and Jennifer Doyle, Co-Chairs



Minnesota Association of Law Libraries (MALL)

Spring Annual Meeting, May 20, 2015, University of Minnesota Law School

Business Meeting Minutes (unapproved version)

Call to order at 11:15 am by President Barbara Minor

Welcome: To new members and first time attendees.

Approval of Meeting Minutes: March meeting minutes were read and approved as corrected.

Treasurer's Report: At present, we have \$10, 183.08 in assets. The yearend report will be included in the upcoming newsletter and will reflect grants and scholarships for this year as well as membership renewals and the cost of this meeting. This is a Legal Research Institute year and I encourage all of us to get involved in this important fund raising activity. It allows us to support our members' professional development as well as raising our profile and attracting new members.

Committees:

Archives-

Awards, Grants and Scholarships- Vic Garces gave the committee report. He thanked his fellow committee members, Mary Ellen Gallagher and Charlie Wilson, for their hard work. The committee awarded four grants to attend the annual AALL Meeting in Philadelphia: Pauline Afuso, Leslie Kallas, Kathleen Bedor and Janelle Beitz. The committee also awarded one scholarship this year to John Scherrer (MLIS, University of Wisconsin-Madison).

Consulting and Community Outreach-no nominal chair; Barb Minor gave the report. This committee maintains the Wiki that supports VLN. Several hundred attorneys use the Wiki; it is an important desktop reference resource. If you are interested in helping maintain it please contact Barb.

Downtowners- Sheri Brenden and Abby Willemsen are co-chairs.

Education- Todd Fenton is the chair and reminded us this a Legal Research Institute year. It will be held this fall. Look for more information on how you can be a part of this important MALL program.

Exchange- The Exchange Committee posts used legal materials that organizations or people have for sale, wish to donate, or need. In 2014/2015, MALL Exchange had 15 requests from law firms, lawyers, and libraries to list unused material. There were also 6 requests for people seeking materials. Exchange does have a list of metro area recyclers for those books that remain homeless. In addition to the recycling option, Books for Africa (<http://www.booksforafrica.org/law.html>) also accepts a few categories of gently used legal materials. In addition to the Exchange listserv, the Minnesota State Bar Association Solo and Small Business listserv cross post available materials. This collaboration provides a wider audience for people seeking materials to fill office shelves. Susan A. Trombley, Chair

Government Relations-Andrea Wambach is the chair.

Membership-Abby Walters is the chair. A reminder renewals are due soon.

Newsletter- the Newsletter Committee has successfully released three of the four quarterly newsletters for the year. The latest issue explored the topic of innovation in the legal industry and included a summary of a recent survey of MALL members on their efforts. The committee has been very fortunate to find outstanding authors of articles for each issue, generally with three or four original articles. In addition to the substantive articles, we also have had full support of all committee members to draft sections on new members, training opportunities, announcements, and have even added a section for recent job postings. Finally, the group moved from an online publishing tool that was not well known by many users to the Microsoft Publishing tool that has allowed broader editorial access and created new branding. Thank you to Andrea Fraser, Kathey Windyk, Sarah Yates and all of our talented writers for their outstanding contributions!

Peggy Lahammer and Jennifer Doyle, co-chairs

Nominations- Election Results: Congratulations to Neal Axton, Vice-President/President Elect and Jean Boos, Secretary/Treasurer.

Placement-Liz Reppe is the chair.

Public relations-

Technical Services SIS-

Web-Pauline Afuso and Neal Axton are the chairs.

Installation of the New President: Todd Fenton was installed as MALL's president.

Announcements: Sarah Mulligan expressed the members' appreciation to Barb Minor for her service as president and presented her with a token of our esteem-a gift card to use at her discretion but hopefully for some Beatles related memorabilia to fuel her fan fever!

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 PM

Respectfully submitted by Jean Boos, Secretary

Minnesota Association of Law Libraries (MALL)
Statement of Revenues, Expenses & Bank Balances
For the Year July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015-FINAL

Balance in MALL TCF checking account on July 1, 2014		\$4,027.20
Revenues:		
Chapter Membership Dues & Fees	\$2,985.00	
Meeting Registrations	\$2,505.00	
Total Revenues		\$5,490.00
Transfer from TCF Money Market	\$3,000.00	
Expenses:		
Meetings & Holiday Party (Food, Beverage, Speakers, Facilities)	\$3,459.32	
Grants/Scholarships to Members (May)	\$4,600.00	
VLC (Volunteer Librarians Coalition) Expenses	\$290.00	
SurveyMonkey subscription (annual-August)	\$204.00	
AALL Chapter Insurance (annual-October)	\$186.00	
Flickr subscription	\$24.95	
Website Software (Wild Apricot)	\$270.00	
Unsung Heroes table (MALL cost - attendees pay a portion)	\$300.00	
Misc. Expenses	\$68.10	
Total Expenses		\$9,402.37
Balance in MALL TCF checking account on June 30, 2015		\$3,114.83
Balance in PayPal as of June 30, 2015		\$1,503.34
Balance in TCF Money Market account on June 30, 2015		\$4,397.85
Total Net Worth of the MALL Chapter on June 30, 2015		<u>\$9,016.02</u>

Jean Boos

MALL Secretary/Treasurer

prepared July 9, 2015

jean.boos@wmitchell.edu

2014-2015 MALL Officers

President

Barb Minor

bgminor@rkmc.com
612.349.8758

Past President

Sarah Mulligan

sarah.mulligan@faegrebd.com
612.766.7948

Vice President/ President-Elect

Todd Fenton

tmfenton@umn.edu
612.626.4236

Secretary-Treasurer Jean Boos

jean.boos@wmitchell.edu
651.290.8655

Member at Large

Karla Gedell

karla.gedell@ag.state.mn.us
651.757.1055

Committee Chairs

Archives

Dennis Skrade

dennis.skrade@courts.state.mn.us
651.297.2090

Awards, Grants, & Scholarships

Vic Garces

garce003@umn.edu
612.624.2597

Consulting/Community Outreach

Vacant

Downtowners

Sheri Brenden

sbrenden@fredlaw.com
612.492.7086

Abby Willemssen

awillemssen@fredlaw.com
612.492.7556

Education

Todd Fenton

tmfenton@umn.edu
612.626.4236

Exchange

Susan Trombley

susan.trombley@courts.state.mn.us
651.297.7659

Government Relations

Andrea Wambach

andrea_wambach@ca8.uscourts.gov
612.664.5830

Membership

Abby Walters

abby.walters@maslon.com
612.672.8236

Newsletter

Jennifer Doyle

jldoyle@rkmc.com
612.349.0940

Peggy Lahammer

peggy.lahammer@gpmlaw.com
612.632.3010

Nominations

Sarah Mulligan

sarahmulligan@faegrebd.com
651.695.7618

Placement & Recruitment Liz

Repe liz.reppe@courts.state.mn.us

651.297.2089

Public Relations

Vacant

Publications

Valerie Aggerbeck

vraggerbeck@stthomas.edu
651.983.2678

Tech Services SIG

Vacant

Web Committee

Pauline Afuso

pauline.afuso@co.washington.mn.us
651.430.6330

Webmaster

Neal Axton

naxton@wmitchell.edu
651.290.6374

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